

**House Study Bill 507 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the licensure of the practice of  
2 naturopathic medicine.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 147.1, subsections 3 and 6, Code 2011,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 3. "*Licensed*" or "*certified*", when applied to a physician  
4 and surgeon, podiatric physician, osteopathic physician  
5 and surgeon, naturopathic physician, physician assistant,  
6 psychologist, chiropractor, nurse, dentist, dental hygienist,  
7 dental assistant, optometrist, speech pathologist, audiologist,  
8 pharmacist, physical therapist, physical therapist assistant,  
9 occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant,  
10 respiratory care practitioner, practitioner of cosmetology  
11 arts and sciences, practitioner of barbering, funeral  
12 director, dietitian, marital and family therapist, mental  
13 health counselor, social worker, massage therapist, athletic  
14 trainer, acupuncturist, nursing home administrator, hearing aid  
15 dispenser, or sign language interpreter or transliterator means  
16 a person licensed under this subtitle.

17 6. "*Profession*" means medicine and surgery, podiatry,  
18 osteopathic medicine and surgery, naturopathic medicine,  
19 practice as a physician assistant, psychology, chiropractic,  
20 nursing, dentistry, dental hygiene, dental assisting,  
21 optometry, speech pathology, audiology, pharmacy, physical  
22 therapy, physical therapist assisting, occupational therapy,  
23 occupational therapy assisting, respiratory care, cosmetology  
24 arts and sciences, barbering, mortuary science, marital  
25 and family therapy, mental health counseling, social work,  
26 dietetics, massage therapy, athletic training, acupuncture,  
27 nursing home administration, hearing aid dispensing, or sign  
28 language interpreting or transliterating.

29 Sec. 2. Section 147.2, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 1. A person shall not engage in the practice of medicine  
32 and surgery, podiatry, osteopathic medicine and surgery,  
33 naturopathic medicine, psychology, chiropractic, physical  
34 therapy, physical therapist assisting, nursing, dentistry,  
35 dental hygiene, dental assisting, optometry, speech pathology,

1 audiology, occupational therapy, occupational therapy  
2 assisting, respiratory care, pharmacy, cosmetology arts and  
3 sciences, barbering, social work, dietetics, marital and  
4 family therapy or mental health counseling, massage therapy,  
5 mortuary science, athletic training, acupuncture, nursing  
6 home administration, hearing aid dispensing, or sign language  
7 interpreting or transliterating, or shall not practice as a  
8 physician assistant, unless the person has obtained a license  
9 for that purpose from the board for the profession.

10 Sec. 3. Section 147.13, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 1. For medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and  
13 surgery, ~~and~~ acupuncture, and naturopathic medicine, the board  
14 of medicine.

15 Sec. 4. Section 147.74, Code 2011, is amended by adding the  
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 22A. A naturopathic physician licensed  
18 under chapter 148F may use the words "*naturopathic physician*",  
19 "*naturopathic doctor*", "*doctor of naturopathy*", "*naturopathic*  
20 *medical doctor*", "*doctor of naturopathic medicine*", "*naturopath*"  
21 or the initials "*N.D.*" or "*N.M.D.*" after the person's name.

22 Sec. 5. Section 147.107, Code Supplement 2011, is amended by  
23 adding the following new subsection:

24 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. A licensed naturopathic physician  
25 may prescribe all substances and devices consistent with the  
26 level of training of the naturopathic physician unless added  
27 to the exclusionary naturopathic formulary by the naturopathic  
28 advisory council.

29 Sec. 6. Section 148E.3, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 1. A person otherwise licensed to practice medicine and  
32 surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, naturopathic  
33 medicine, chiropractic, podiatry, or dentistry who is  
34 exclusively engaged in the practice of the person's profession.

35 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 148F.1 **Definitions.**

1 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
2 requires:

3 1. "*Approved naturopathic medical program*" means any of the  
4 following:

5 a. A naturopathic medical education program in the  
6 United States providing the degree of doctor of naturopathy  
7 or doctor of naturopathic medicine. Such program shall  
8 offer graduate-level, full-time didactic and supervised  
9 clinical training and shall be accredited, or shall have  
10 achieved candidacy status for accreditation by the council  
11 on naturopathic medical education or by an equivalent  
12 federally recognized accrediting body for naturopathic medical  
13 programs also recognized by the board. Additionally, the  
14 program shall be an institution, or part of an institution of  
15 higher education that is either accredited or is a candidate  
16 for accreditation by a regional or national institutional  
17 accrediting agency recognized by the United States secretary  
18 of education.

19 b. A diploma-granting, degree-equivalent college or  
20 university in Canada that offers graduate-level, full-time  
21 didactic and supervised clinical training and is accredited, or  
22 has achieved candidacy status for accreditation by the council  
23 on naturopathic medical education or an equivalent federally  
24 recognized accrediting body for naturopathic medical programs  
25 also recognized by the board; and the college or university  
26 has provincial approval for participation in government-funded  
27 student aid.

28 2. "*Board*" means the board of medicine established in  
29 section 147.13.

30 3. "*Director*" means the executive director of the board of  
31 medicine.

32 4. "*Exclusionary naturopathic formulary*" means the  
33 exclusionary list of medicines, nonprescription and  
34 prescription, which naturopathic physicians may not use in the  
35 practice of their profession, as determined by the naturopathic

1 advisory council.

2 5. "*Minor office procedures*" means methods for the repair  
3 and care incidental to superficial lacerations and abrasions,  
4 superficial lesions, and the removal of foreign bodies located  
5 in the superficial tissues.

6 6. "*Naturopathic advisory council*" means the naturopathic  
7 advisory council as established under this chapter.

8 7. "*Naturopathic medicine*" means a system of primary health  
9 care for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human  
10 health conditions, injury, and disease, and the promotion or  
11 restoration of health. "*Naturopathic medicine*" includes the use  
12 of physiological, psychological, or mechanical methods, and the  
13 use of natural medicines, prescription or legend drugs, foods,  
14 herbs, or other natural remedies.

15 8. "*Naturopathic physician*" means a practitioner of  
16 naturopathic medicine who has been properly licensed for that  
17 purpose by the board of medicine under this chapter, who may  
18 diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases using a system  
19 of practice that is based on the natural healing capacity  
20 of individuals, and may use physiological, psychological,  
21 or mechanical methods, and may use natural medicines,  
22 prescription, or legend drugs, foods, herbs, or other natural  
23 remedies.

24 9. "*Prescription drug*" means any drug described in section  
25 503(b) of the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §  
26 353, if its label is required to bear the symbol "RX only".

27 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 148F.2 Licensure — naturopathic  
28 medicine.

29 1. *Qualifications for licensure*. An applicant for a license  
30 to practice naturopathic medicine shall be granted a license  
31 by the board if the applicant satisfies all of the following  
32 requirements:

33 a. Submits an application for licensure designed and  
34 approved by the naturopathic advisory council.

35 b. Pays an application fee established by the board.

1     *c.* Has graduated from an approved naturopathic medical  
2 program.

3     *d.* Has passed a competency-based national naturopathic  
4 licensing examination administered by the north American board  
5 of naturopathic examiners or successor agency, that has been  
6 nationally recognized to administer a naturopathic examination  
7 representing federal standards of education and training. For  
8 applicants who completed an approved naturopathic medical  
9 program located in Canada, eligibility for licensure may be  
10 granted with evidence of successful passage of a Canadian  
11 provincial competency examination.

12     *e.* Provides evidence that the applicant is of good ethical  
13 and professional reputation. An applicant shall not have had  
14 a license to practice naturopathic medicine or other health  
15 care license registration or certificate refused, revoked,  
16 or suspended by this state or any other jurisdiction for  
17 reasons that relate to the applicant's ability to skillfully  
18 and safely practice naturopathic medicine unless that license,  
19 registration, or certification has been restored to good  
20 standing.

21     *f.* Provides evidence that the applicant is physically and  
22 mentally capable of safely practicing naturopathic medicine  
23 with or without reasonable accommodation.

24     2. *Term of license.* A license granted pursuant to this  
25 section shall be renewed every two years.

26     Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 148F.3 Use of title — exceptions.

27     1. A person shall not represent that the person is a  
28 naturopathic physician, a doctor of naturopathic medicine, a  
29 doctor of naturopathy, a naturopath, or as being otherwise  
30 authorized to practice naturopathic medicine in this state, or  
31 use the titles "*N.D.*" or "*N.M.D.*" or any other titles, words,  
32 letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that  
33 the individual is a licensed naturopathic physician unless  
34 the individual has been licensed as a naturopathic physician  
35 pursuant to this chapter without first obtaining from the board

1 a license to practice naturopathic medicine pursuant to the  
2 provisions of this chapter.

3 2. The practice of naturopathic medicine by a naturopathic  
4 physician licensed pursuant to this chapter does not constitute  
5 the practice of medicine and surgery under chapter 148, the  
6 practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery under chapter 148,  
7 or the practice of nursing under chapter 152.

8 3. This chapter and chapter 147 do not prevent qualified  
9 members of other professions including but not limited  
10 to individuals licensed under chapter 148, 150, 150A, or  
11 152 from providing services consistent with the nature of  
12 naturopathic medicine, but these persons shall not use a title  
13 or description denoting that they are licensed naturopathic  
14 physicians.

15 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. 148F.4 **Duties of board.**

16 The board shall adopt rules consistent with this chapter,  
17 chapter 147, and as recommended by the naturopathic advisory  
18 council which are necessary for the performance of its duties.

19 Sec. 11. NEW SECTION. 148F.5 **Naturopathic advisory council.**

20 1. A naturopathic advisory council is established,  
21 consisting of the following members, appointed by the governor:

22 a. Four members who are naturopathic physicians who are  
23 residents of the state of Iowa and who are currently licensed  
24 in good standing in another state.

25 b. One member who is a pharmacist licensed in Iowa.

26 c. One member who is a medical or osteopathic physician  
27 licensed in Iowa, who has expertise in integrative medicine.

28 d. One member representing the general public.

29 2. Members shall not receive per diem or expense payments.

30 3. Members shall serve two-year terms, and shall serve until  
31 their successors have been appointed.

32 4. The council shall select a chairperson from its  
33 membership.

34 Sec. 12. NEW SECTION. 148F.6 **Council powers and duties.**

35 The naturopathic advisory council shall do all of the

1 following:

- 2 1. Advise the board regarding standards for licensed  
3 naturopathic physicians.
- 4 2. Provide for distribution of information regarding  
5 licensed naturopathic physician standards.
- 6 3. Advise the board on enforcement issues.
- 7 4. Review applications for licensure and license renewal  
8 and recommend the granting or denial thereof.
- 9 5. Advise the board on issues related to receiving and  
10 investigating complaints, conducting hearings, and imposing  
11 disciplinary action in relation to complaints against licensed  
12 naturopathic physicians.
- 13 6. Review naturopathic education and training for and  
14 make specific recommendations to the board regarding the  
15 qualifications to practice naturopathic childbirth attendance.
- 16 7. Recommend to the board any prescription drugs which  
17 should be included on the exclusionary naturopathic formulary.
- 18 8. Advise the board regarding approval of continuing  
19 education programs specific to naturopathic practice.

20 Sec. 13. NEW SECTION. 148F.7 **Scope of practice.**

21 A naturopathic physician may do any of the following:

- 22 1. Order and perform physical and laboratory examinations  
23 consistent with naturopathic education and training for  
24 diagnostic purposes, including but not limited to phlebotomy,  
25 clinical laboratory tests, orificial examinations, and  
26 physiological function tests.
- 27 2. Order diagnostic imaging studies consistent with  
28 naturopathic training. All diagnostic tests not consistent  
29 with naturopathic medical education and training must be  
30 referred for performance and interpretation to an appropriately  
31 licensed health care professional.
- 32 3. Dispense, administer, order, and prescribe, provide, or  
33 perform the following, as applicable:
  - 34 a. Food, extracts of food, nutraceuticals, vitamins, amino  
35 acids, minerals, enzymes, botanicals and their extracts,

1 botanical medicines, homeopathic medicines, and all dietary  
2 supplements and nonprescription drugs as defined by the federal  
3 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.

4 *b.* Prescription or legend drugs and hormonal replacement.

5 *c.* Hot or cold hydrotherapy, naturopathic physical medicine,  
6 and therapeutic exercise.

7 *d.* Devices, including but not limited to therapeutic  
8 devices, barrier contraception, and durable medical equipment.

9 *e.* Health education and health counseling.

10 *f.* Repair and care incidental to superficial lacerations and  
11 abrasions.

12 *g.* Removal of foreign bodies located in the superficial  
13 tissues.

14 *h.* Musculoskeletal manipulation consistent with  
15 naturopathic education and training.

16 4. Utilize routes of administration that include oral,  
17 nasal, auricular, ocular, rectal, vaginal, transdermal,  
18 intradermal, subcutaneous, intravenous, and intramuscular  
19 consistent with the education and training of a naturopathic  
20 physician.

21 5. Perform all therapies as trained and educated, and  
22 approved by the naturopathic advisory council.

23 Sec. 14. NEW SECTION. 148F.8 Prohibitions.

24 A naturopathic physician licensed under this chapter shall  
25 not do any of the following:

26 1. Perform or induce abortions.

27 2. Perform surgical procedures except those minor office  
28 procedures authorized by this chapter.

29 3. Practice or claim to practice as a medical or osteopathic  
30 physician, dentist, pharmacist, podiatrist, optometrist,  
31 psychologist, advanced practice registered nurse, physician  
32 assistant, chiropractor, physical therapist, acupuncturist, or  
33 any other health care provider not authorized in this chapter  
34 unless licensed by the state of Iowa as such.

35 4. Use general or spinal anesthetics.

1 5. Administer ionizing radioactive substances for  
2 therapeutic purposes.

3 6. Administer or prescribe chemotherapeutic medications for  
4 the purpose of cancer treatment.

5 7. Perform surgical procedures of the eye, ear, nerves,  
6 veins, or arteries extending beyond superficial tissue.

7 **Sec. 15. NEW SECTION. 148F.9 Exemptions.**

8 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit or  
9 restrict:

10 1. The practice of a profession by individuals who are  
11 licensed, certified, or registered under other laws of this  
12 state who are performing services within their authorized scope  
13 of practice.

14 2. The practice of naturopathic medicine by an individual  
15 employed by the government of the United States while the  
16 individual is engaged in the performance of duties prescribed  
17 by the laws and regulations of the United States.

18 3. The practice of naturopathic medicine by students  
19 enrolled in an approved naturopathic medical program. The  
20 performance of services shall be pursuant to a course of  
21 instruction or assignments from an instructor and under the  
22 supervision of the instructor. The instructor shall be a  
23 naturopathic physician licensed pursuant to this chapter or a  
24 duly licensed professional in the instructed field.

25 4. Persons from treating themselves and family members  
26 based on religious or health beliefs.

27 5. Persons who sell vitamins and herbs from providing  
28 information about their products.

29 6. Persons or practitioners from advising in the use of  
30 a therapy, including but not limited to: herbal medicine,  
31 homeopathy, nutrition, or other nondrug or nonsurgical therapy  
32 that is within the scope of practice of naturopathic physicians  
33 as outlined in this chapter as long as such therapy is lawful,  
34 or, if a licensed health care provider, within the scope of  
35 practice of the profession; and provided that such person is

1 not using a title protected pursuant to this chapter or holding  
2 themselves out to be a naturopathic physician.

3 7. The practice of naturopathic medicine by persons who  
4 are licensed to practice in any other state as practicing  
5 naturopathic physicians, who enter this state to consult with  
6 a licensed naturopathic physician in this state; provided,  
7 however, that the consultation is to be limited to examination,  
8 recommendation, or testimony in litigation.

9 Sec. 16. FUNDING. The board of medicine shall apply  
10 to the department of administrative services to request an  
11 allocation of moneys from the IowaAccess revolving fund to fund  
12 the estimated seventy-five thousand dollars for expansion  
13 of the advanced Maryland automatic network disk archiver  
14 (AMANDA) system to allow licensure of naturopathic physicians  
15 in the AMANDA system currently being developed for the boards  
16 of dentistry, nursing, and medicine. The board shall not  
17 implement a fee increase to make this adjustment to the AMANDA  
18 system for naturopathic physicians. Until such changes are  
19 made to the electronic licensing system the board shall license  
20 naturopathic physicians under the current procedures used to  
21 license medical and osteopathic physicians.

22 EXPLANATION

23 This bill requires the licensing of naturopathic physicians  
24 and makes the provisions of Code chapter 147, including  
25 penalty and other regulatory provisions, applicable to other  
26 health professions applicable to the practice of naturopathic  
27 medicine. The bill provides that the practice of naturopathic  
28 medicine means the provision of naturopathic services defined  
29 as a system of primary health care for the prevention,  
30 diagnosis, and treatment of human health conditions, injury,  
31 and disease, and the promotion or restoration of health.  
32 Naturopathic medicine includes the use of physiological,  
33 psychological, or mechanical methods, and the use of natural  
34 medicines, prescription or legend drugs, foods, herbs, or  
35 other natural remedies. The bill specifies qualifications

1 for licensure and the scope of practice for a naturopathic  
2 physician, and details functions that a naturopathic physician  
3 may not perform.

4 The practice of naturopathic medicine is regulated by the  
5 board of medicine, with the advice of a naturopathic advisory  
6 council. The council consists of seven members, four of  
7 whom are naturopathic physicians, one medical or osteopathic  
8 physician, a pharmacist, and one member representing the  
9 general public. The council does not receive a per diem or  
10 expenses.

11 The bill provides that qualified members of other  
12 professions, including physicians and nurses, are not prevented  
13 from providing services consistent with naturopathic medicine,  
14 but these persons shall not use a title or description denoting  
15 that they are naturopathic physicians. The bill sets out these  
16 titles.

17 The bill provides for inclusion of licensed naturopathic  
18 physicians in the AMANDA system. This system is a network  
19 disk archiver system currently used by the boards of nursing,  
20 dentistry, and medicine.